



AVOID DUI Task Force Riverside County PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 7, 2015

CONTACT:

Sergeant Robert Tipre
Riverside Police Department
Phone: 951.351.6046
Email: rtipre@riversideca.gov

RIVERSIDE AVOID DUI TASK FORCE – WINTER HOLIDAY FINAL REPORT

The Winter Holiday DUI mobilization on impaired drivers has ended and a significant number of arrests have been made in Riverside County through routine traffic enforcement and special Avoid DUI Task Force operations.

From 12:01 a.m., Friday, December 12, 2014, through midnight, Thursday, January 1, 2015, officers throughout the City of Riverside arrested **43** individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Tragically, there was also 1 fatality attributed to impaired driving during the 2014 holiday period. In 2013, Riverside reported **29** DUI arrests, and 1 fatality, during the twenty-day Winter Holiday Mobilization, thus indicating a 67% increase in DUI arrests for 2014.

DUI checkpoints, along with high visibility DUI enforcement, are proven strategies with the goal of removing impaired drivers from the road and heightening awareness of the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Riverside Police Department plans to continue the deployment of their educational "Know Your Limit" program officers as part of their multiple DUI campaigns planned for Riverside in 2015.

Law enforcement officials will be conducting more Avoid DUI operations throughout the county and city of Riverside during Super Bowl Sunday in February and then again for local St. Patrick's Day festivities in March. Police officers, sheriff deputies and the CHP encourage all motorists to help make your community safer each day: Report Drunk Drivers – Call 911!

Riverside County AVOID Task Force funding is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The Office of Traffic Safety is offering a free mobile app – DDVIP – aimed at thanking the sober designated driver with perks and free offers at area bars and restaurants.

Remember, it is never safe to drink and drive: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*

###

